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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1. A putter comprising:
- a shaft having a grip disposed at an upper end;
- a putter head disposed at a lower end of the shaft that comprises:
- a body having a front surface with a relatively small, centrally-located, flat ball contact surface that comprises a sweet spot of the putter head and lateral portions that taper rearwardly away from the ball contact surface.
 - 2. The putter recited in Claim 1 wherein the shaft is straight.
 - 3. The putter recited in Claim 1 wherein the shaft has an offset.
 - 4. The putter recited in Claim 1 wherein the body has a trapezoidal shape.
 - 5. The putter recited in Claim 1 wherein the lateral portions of the front surface are flat surfaces.
 - 6. The putter recited in Claim 1 wherein the lateral portions of the front surface are curved surfaces.
 - 7. The putter recited in Claim 1 wherein the putter head has a flat base with relatively thick lateral ends, one of which has an opening therein into which the shaft is inserted.
 - 8. The putter recited in Claim 7 wherein a rear portion of the putter head has a cavity formed therein.
 - 9. In a putter having a shaft with a grip disposed at an upper end and a putter head disposed at a lower end, wherein the putter head comprises:
 - a body having a front surface with a relatively small, centrally-located, flat ball contact surface that comprises a sweet spot of the putter head and lateral portions that taper rearwardly away from the ball contact surface.
 - 10. The putter head recited in Claim 9 wherein the shaft is straight.

- 11. The putter head recited in Claim 9 wherein the shaft has an offset.
- 12. The putter head recited in Claim 9 wherein the body has a trapezoidal shape.
- 13. The putter head recited in Claim 9 wherein the lateral portions of the front surface are flat surfaces.
- 14. The putter head recited in Claim 9 wherein the lateral portions of the front surface are curved surfaces.
- 15. The putter head recited in Claim 9 which has a flat base with relatively thick lateral ends, one of which has an opening therein into which the shaft is inserted.
- 16. The putter head recited in Claim 15 which further comprises a cavity formed in a rear portion thereof.